

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

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PASS: USIAC IBS/BE - CZECH SERVICE

FOR BEWT/TPD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, CZ

SUBJ: BRNO FAIR '75 (OPENING DAY)

1. 17TH ANNUAL BRNO ENGINEERING FAIR FORMALLY OPENED AT 10:00 A.M. ON SEPT. 9 BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER JOSEF SIMON WHO, FOR SEVERAL YEARS PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT IN 1974, HAD SERVED AS FEDERAL MINISTER OF METALLURGY AND HEAVY ENGINEERING. IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS, DEPPRIMIN SIMON SAID THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA INTENDS TO EXPAND OUTPUT OF ENGINEERING INDUSTRY DURING NEXT FIVE YEAR PLAN PERIOD (1976-1980) BY MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OVER CURRENT LEVELS, EXPORTS OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT ARE TO GROW FASTER THAN OVERALL PACE OF PRODUCTION, WHILE ENGINEERING OUTPUT FOR DOMESTIC MARKET WILL GROW MORE SLOWLY. WITHOUT SPECIFYING AMOUNTS INVOLVED, SIMON SAID A "GREAT DEAL" OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT WOULD BE IMPORTED MAINLY FROM CEMA PARTNERS, BUT ALSO FROM OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL.

2. AS REGARDS SECTORAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDUSTRY, SIMON UNDERLINED GOVERNMENT PLANS TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO BUILD UP NECESSARY METALLURGICAL AND ENGINEERING BASE FOR LARGE SCALE MANUFACTURE OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. EMPHASIS WILL ALSO BE GIVEN TO ACCELERATING OUTPUT IN FOLLOWING SECTORS: CHEMICAL
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ENGINEERING, MANUFACTURE OF MACHINES FOR PLASTICS AND RUBBER

INDUSTRIES, COMPUTERS, MEASURING AND PROCESS CONTROL INSTRUMENTS, MACHINE TOOLS AND FORMING MACHINES, TEXTILE AND LEATHER WORKING MACHINES, CONSTRUCTION AND ROAD BUILDING MACHINERY INCLUDING TRUCKS. SIMON SAID THAT ALMOST TWO THOUSAND EXHIBITORS FROM 30 COUNTRIES ARE PARTICIPATING AT BRNO ENGINEERING FAIR THIS YEAR.

3. REPRESENTING U.S. EXHIBIT AT OPENING CEREMONY WERE CHARGE D'AFFAIRS, A.I., AT U.S. EMBASSY IN PRAGUE MR. NORMAN H. FRISBIE; FIRST SECRETARY OF EMBASSY FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS, MR. ROBERT W. FARRAND, AND DIRECTOR OF U.S. EXHIBIT, MR. JOHN J. BODSON. IN AFTERNOON, DEPPRIMIN SIMON AND ENTOURAGE STOPPED AT U.S. EXHIBIT SITE DURING 'WALK THROUGH' THE MAJOR PAVILIONS, MET BRIEFLY WITH COMMERCE AND EMBASSY EXHIBIT STAFF AND VISITED THREE EXHIBITORS' BOOTHS BEFORE MOVING ON.

4. THE FAIR WAS OPENED TO THE PUBLIC ON THE MORNING OF SEPT. 10. FRISBIE

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